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in matters involving the valuation of property where relevant to proper performance of a duty or responsibility described in this paragraph;

(6) To establish or verify the financial status or condition and location of the taxpayer against whom collection activity is or may be directed, to locate assets in which the taxpayer has an interest, to ascertain the amount of any liability described in subparagraph (3) of this paragraph to be collected, or otherwise to apply the provisions of the Code relating to establishment of liens against such assets, or levy on, or seizure, or sale of, the assets to satisfy any such liability; or

(7) To prepare for any proceeding described in section 6103(h)(2) or conduct an investigation which may result in such a proceeding, or where necessary in order to accomplish any activity described in subparagraph (6) of this paragraph.

Disclosure of return information to a person other than the taxpayer to whom such return information relates or such taxpayer's legal representative for the purpose of obtaining information necessary to properly carry out the foregoing duties and responsibilities as authorized by this paragraph or for the purpose of otherwise properly accomplishing any activity described in subparagraph (6) of this paragraph should be made, however, only if such necessary information cannot, under the facts and circumstances of the particular case, otherwise reasonably be obtained in accurate and sufficiently probative form, or in a timely manner, and without impairing the proper performance of such duties and responsibilities, or if the activities described in subparagraph (6) of this paragraph cannot otherwise properly be accomplished without making such disclo-

(c) Disclosure of return information in connection with certain personnel or claimant representative matters. In connection with the performance of official duties relating to any investigation concerned with the enforcement of any provision of the Code, including enforcement of any rules, directives, or manual issuances prescribed by the Secretary or his delegate under section 7803 or any other provision of the Code,

which affect or may affect the personnel or employment rights or status, or civil or criminal liability, of any employee or former or prospective employee of the Treasury Department or the rights of any person who is or may be a party to an administrative action or proceeding pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1026, an officer or employee of the Service or Office of the Chief Counsel therefor is authorized to disclose return information (as defined in section 6103(b)(2)) for the purpose of obtaining, verifying, or establishing other information which is or may be relevant and material to such investigation. Disclosure of return information to a person other than the taxpayer to whom such return information relates or such taxpaver's legal representative for the purpose of obtaining information necessary to properly carry out the foregoing duties and responsibilities as authorized by this paragraph should be made, however, only if such necessary information cannot, under the facts and circumstances of the particular case, otherwise reasonably be obtained in accurate and sufficiently probative form, or in a timely manner, and without impairing the proper performance of such duties and responsibilities.

(Secs. 6103 and 7805 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (90 Stat. 1667, 68A Stat. 917; 26 U.S.C. 6103 and 7805))

[T.D. 7723, 45 FR 65569, Oct. 3, 1980]

§ 301.6103(k)(9)-1 Disclosure of returns and return information relating to payment of tax by credit card and debit card.

Officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service may disclose to card issuers, financial institutions, or other persons such return information as the Commissioner deems necessary in connection with processing credit card and debit card transactions to effectuate payment of tax as authorized by §301.6311-2. Officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service may disclose such return information to such persons as the Commissioner deems necessary in connection with billing or collection of the amounts charged or debited, including resolution of errors relating to the credit

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card or debit card account as described in §301.6311-2(d).

[T.D. 8969, 66 FR 64742, Dec. 14, 2001]

§ 301.6103(1)(2)-1 Disclosure of returns and return information to Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for purposes of research and studies.

(a) General rule. Pursuant to the provisions of section 6103(1)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code and subject to the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section, officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service may disclose returns and return information (as defined by section 6103(b)) to officers and employees of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for purposes of, but only to the extent necessary in, conducting research and studies authorized by title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

(b) Procedures and restrictions. Disclosure of returns or return information by officers or employees of the Service as provided by paragraph (a) of this section will be made only upon written request to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue by the Executive Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation describing the returns or return information to be disclosed, the taxable period or date to which such returns or return information relates, and the purpose for which the returns or return information is needed in the administration of title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and designating by title the officers and employees of such corporation to whom such disclosure is authorized. No such officer or employee to whom returns or return information is disclosed pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (a) shall disclose such returns or return information to any person, other than the taxpayer by whom the return was made or to whom the return information relates or other officers or employees of such corporation whose duties or responsibilities require such disclosure for a purpose described in paragraph (a), except in a form which cannot be associated with, or

otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer.

(Secs. 6103 and 7805 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (90 Stat. 1667, 68A Stat. 917; 26 U.S.C. 6103 and 7805))

[T.D. 7723, 45 FR 65570, Oct. 3, 1980]

§ 301.6103(l)(2)-2 Disclosure of returns and return information to Department of Labor for purposes of research and studies.

(a) General rule. Pursuant to the provisions of section 6103(1)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code and subject to the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section, officers or employees of the Internal Revenue Service may disclose returns and return information (as defined by section 6103(b)) to officers and employees of the Department of Labor for purposes of, but only to the extent necessary in, conducting research and studies authorized by section 513 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

(b) Procedures and restrictions. Disclosure of returns or return information by officers or employees of the Service as provided by paragraph (a) of this section will be made only upon written request to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue by the Administrator of the Pension and Welfare Benefit Programs of the Department of Labor describing the returns or return information to be disclosed, the taxable period or date to which such returns or return information relates, and the purpose for which the returns or return information is needed in the administration of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and designating by title the officers and employees of such department to whom such disclosure is authorized. No such officer or employee to whom returns or return information is disclosed pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (a) shall disclose such returns or return information to any person, other than the taxpayer by whom the return was made or to whom the return information relates or other officers or employees of such department whose duties or responsibilities require such disclosure for a purpose described in paragraph (a), except in a form which cannot be